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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, June 1, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended May 26 totaled an estimated 18.9 billion ton-miles, 15.9 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 21 weeks of 1984 was an estimated 372.5 billion ton-miles, 16.1 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended May 26 totaled 422,962, the highest individual week since the week ended November 21, 1981. The total was 12.2 percent higher than 1983 and 3.0 percent over the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 19.6 percent in the East, 10.8 percent in the South and 8.0 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 11 of the 21 commodity groups showed increases. Coal loadings were up 26,036 cars (24.9 percent), and chemicals and allied products showed a gain of 5,075 cars (22.9 percent). Fifteen of the 21 groups increased from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended May 19 totaled 52,346 cars, up 16.2 percent from the corresponding week of 1983, and 87,721 trailers and/or containers, 11.6 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 20 weeks of the year was 1,009,274 cars, 18.6 percent higher than last year, and 1,745,022 trailers and/or containers, up 19.0 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 5/26/84:

	Loadings in Week ended May 26, 1984		Change from Corresponding Week 1983			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	23,171	I	1,382	6.3	D	593	2.6
Other farm products	3,823	D	405	9.6	D	82	2.1
Metallic ores	20,736	D	262	1.2	I	504	2.4
Coal	130,573	I	26,036	24.9	I	9,183	7.0
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	13,218	I	2,187	19.8	I	156	1.2
Nonmetallic minerals	10,583	D	989	8.5	D	1,943	18.4
Grain mill products	11,059	D	793	6.7	I	313	2.8
Food and kindred products	10,843	D	1,077	9.0	I	260	2.4
Primary forest products	14,186	D	250	1.7	D	525	3.7
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,967	D	449	5.3	I	760	9.5
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,322	D	324	2.1	I	994	6.5
Chemicals and allied products	27,274	I	5,075	22.9	I	382	1.4
Petroleum products	4,882	I	145	3.1	I	102	2.1
Stone, clay and glass products	12,199	I	859	7.6	I	39	0.3
Coke	5,718	I	362	6.8	I	42	0.7
Metals and products	10,566	I	1,830	20.9	I	311	2.9
Motor vehicles and equipment	20,272	I	1,780	9.6	D	1,065	5.3
Waste and scrap materials	10,593	I	1,607	17.9	I	181	1.7
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	6,570	D	2,214	25.2	D	548	8.3
All other carloads	63,134	I	11,475	22.2	I	3,767	6.0
LCL traffic	273	D	25	8.4	I	31	11.4
Total Cars Loaded	422,962	I	45,950	12.2	I	12,269	3.0
Corresponding week of 1983	377,012						

	1984	1983	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (21 weeks)	8,277,325	7,357,700	I 12.5

Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):

20 weeks ended May 19	353.6 (rev.)	304.6	I 16.1 (rev.)
Week ended May 26	18.9	16.3	I 15.9
21 weeks cumulative	372.5	320.9	I 16.1

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